

above the interests of foreign countries, foreign producers, importers and the multinational companies that were taking advantage of mercantilist practices in China. American manufacturers wanted the U.S. government to put the interests of American producers ahead of the law firms representing foreign shipping companies, the lobbyists representing Wall Street and, again, the multinational companies that were swimming in record profits by sending their production offshore; all while the critical manufacturing sector was left for dead. "Good riddance," said the financial elite and its power structure: "those jobs sucked anyway."

Those same free-market, capitalist, anti-government, anti-regulation ideological zealots are now begging—demanding—that taxpayers give them a trillion dollars for destroying the American economy.

I never once reported about the dire warnings of an economic meltdown—about the inevitable financial catastrophe being caused by the asymmetrical global trade imbalances that were mounting by the day. I had my own 401k to worry about along with three older children, and I was not going to be a reporter who stoked the possibility of economic Armageddon.

I guess I was wrong. I guess I should have been reporting on the impending collapse because President George Bush, Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke sure haven't had any such reservations about scaring the bejesus out of us.

What strikes me as particularly sad, however, is the clear FACT that in all of the discussion about bailing out the financiers and their agents who killed the American economy, there has not been one mention of the real reason for America's collapse, nor of what is needed to start the long process of restoring the country back to some semblance of economic health.

The housing bubble and sub-prime loans are only part of the problem.

The real culprit is the fact that almost everything Americans buy is made somewhere else. The country continues to ship all of its wealth overseas. Did the economic policy makers not watch the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games in Beijing? Have they not seen the 200-story skyscrapers going up in Dubai?

The core of America's economic problems stem from the trade deficit and the elimination of tens of thousands of factories and millions of jobs that were creating the wealth the country needed to pay for everything. Without that wealth, the financial sector invented playthings and the nation borrowed until it could borrow no more.

Oh, but wait! The answer to the problem is to borrow more to bailout the people who over borrowed. The Paulson proposal, unexpectedly defeated on Monday September 29 in a harrowing live television broadcast, was to allow the U.S. government to payoff bad debts by going deeper into debt. It did not sit well with anybody.

September 29, 2008, will be an important day in the history of the American Republic. It is the day the American era ended. Watching the live pictures on CNBC of the traders in the pits watching the television monitors above their heads as the vote on the House floor was tallied was like watching New Yorkers standing in horror as they watched the burning World Trade Center towers in 2001. The congressional vote count was simulcast with the Dow, and they were crashing in unison. There was shock in the eyes of the traders, and a panic among the CNBC broadcasters, who couldn't believe what they were witnessing. These men and women are consummate professionals and are not prone

to panic. But there they were barking out: "What's happening with gold?" "Look at the oil markets!" The market did what the towers did and what our President predicted: it collapsed. For the second time in seven years, the energy was visibly drained out of Lower Manhattan and the country at large, as it realized a scary new era had begun.

Yet, there is still NOT ONE mention from anyone in power—especially not the two presidential candidates, nor of a single congressional leader—of what is really needed to bailout the United States.

The only way out of this mess is for the United States do everything it can to make the country what it was until 30 years ago: a nation that valued manufacturing.

The U.S. economy long ago collapsed around domestic manufacturers. Now it's collapsing around the financial wizards who either forget or didn't know that their livelihoods depended on a robust industry and workers making livable wages.

As someone who works in Washington, attends press conferences, government meetings, congressional hearings and who asks questions of the power elite, I can assure you from first-hand experience that the United States government did not do a single thing—nothing—to re-set the global ground rules to allow U.S. industry and its millions of workers to be competitive. In fact, all the rules were changed to favor the foreign and financial interests. The country is now paying the real price of saving a few bucks at Wal-Mart.

The United States government and its elected representatives long ago stopped representing the interests of American workers and American producers. If there is any silver lining in the historic House vote on the Bailout Plan on September 29, it is that maybe Congress has woken up to the power of the people. Unfortunately it was the wrong time to wake up. "The people" must now pay the consequences of their elected representative's somnambulism. They must now prepare to confront the "dire" consequences caused by decades of Wall Street's short-term focus on quarterly profits at the exclusion of everything else.

The country has a lot to learn from American manufacturers and their workers, and it will not like what's coming one bit.

IN RECOGNITION OF GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF GREATER NEW YORK AND NORTHERN NEW JERSEY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS COMMUNITY CONNECT ACTION DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues in this House join me in saluting Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey. This outstanding institution has proudly and effectively served residents with disabilities and disadvantages living in the New York City metropolitan area since its founding in Brooklyn in 1915. Throughout its illustrious history, Goodwill Industries has carried out its critical mission, which is to "enhance the quality and dignity of life for individuals, families and communities."

Last year, Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey provided services to more than 120,000 people, placing

13,000 in jobs. Over the course of the last five years, it helped to connect 53,000 persons with employment opportunities. In 2007, it served more than 9,500 persons with disabilities, and placed almost 2,800 of them in jobs. Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey employs more than 1,800 people with disabilities, and its youth programs provide education, recreation and enrichment to 9,400 children and their families. And, as the Member of Congress representing the neighborhood of Astoria in the Borough of Queens, I am proud of Goodwill Industries' long-term commitment to serve the Two Coves community of Astoria, where its headquarters are located.

This year, the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company is celebrating its 150th anniversary by supporting family-strengthening initiatives across the nation. Northwestern Mutual is working in tandem with Goodwill Industries International to achieve this laudable goal. With 184 member and affiliate Goodwill agencies around the world serving 1.1 million individuals and placing 140,000 in employment, the program promises to be an outstanding success.

This month, Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey and the Northwestern Mutual Foundation are co-sponsoring a Community Connect Action Fair at Lighthouse Park on Roosevelt Island in New York City to help connect New York families with employment and community resources while providing healthy, entertaining activities for children and adults alike.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise to join me in saluting the tremendous contributions of Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey to the civic good of the communities it serves, and to recognize the vital support for those efforts provided by the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company and its Northwestern Mutual Foundation. All Americans owe these great institutions a debt of gratitude for their selfless and compassionate efforts to serve others.

HONORING THE 33RD ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP GEORGE W. BROOKS

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. WATT. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize the 33rd anniversary of Bishop George W. Brooks as Senior Pastor and Chief Elder of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Greensboro, NC.

Since becoming the pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in 1975, Bishop Brooks has proven to be an inspirational leader in Greensboro, our nation and around the world.

Under his leadership, the Mt. Zion Baptist Church has flourished from 35 members in 1975 to over 5,000, and 42 ministries that work to address some of the fundamental needs of its congregation, the Greensboro community and people abroad. Examples of these ministries include daycare and after-school programs that serve 200 children daily, homeless outreach, health and wellness care and the One In Christ Bible College. Internationally, Bishop Brooks and his congregation have established churches and schools in

West Africa, South Africa and the Philippines, including the first Bible School in a South African prison to reduce recidivism. In the midst of all his accomplishments, Bishop Brooks is also an outstanding husband, father and grandfather.

Bishop Brooks is also the co-founder of the Welfare Reform Liaison Project, a program that has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for empowering welfare recipients with the skills to become self-sufficient.

Madam Speaker, we are often reminded and we all agree that government can't solve all our problems. It's great to know that we're getting help on the ground from faith and other non-government organizations. Bishop Brooks and Mt. Zion Baptist Church are certainly doing their part. I'm sure my colleagues join me in wishing Bishop George W. Brooks and the Mt. Zion Baptist Church congregation a happy 33rd pastoral anniversary and best wishes for years to come.

HELPING AMERICAN WORKERS

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, we cannot allow the understandable focus on Wall Street to distract us from the struggles facing America's working families. The families of more than 5,000 New Mexico workers who are still looking for jobs in our struggling economy could soon face destitution. On this day when we consider legislation providing \$700 billion in taxpayer dollars to bail out Wall Street, we must do something to help the working families and to make our economy start producing jobs again.

The Unemployment Insurance extension bill we are voting on today does what is right for New Mexico workers who need a helping hand so their families can make ends meet while they look for jobs in our struggling economy. It also does what's right for every New Mexico family concerned about our state's economy, because it will boost economic growth so we can start producing jobs again. Experts consider extending unemployment insurance to be one of the quickest and most efficient ways to make the economy produce jobs again, since the benefits go to workers who need the money and will spend it quickly. Moody's Investor Service's Economy.com Chief Economist Mark Zandi estimates that every \$1 increase in UI benefits results in a \$1.64 infusion of economic activity.

Numbers released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that America has lost jobs for 9 straight months. New Mexico's unemployment rate rose from 4.1 percent to 4.6 percent in August, the last month for which numbers are available. It is up from 3.1 percent in January. Since the beginning of the year, the economy has lost 760,000 jobs. The job loss in September was the largest one-month jobs loss in 5½ years, more than twice the average of the previous 8 months.

These numbers make two things clear. First, the Bush administration's economic policies have failed, and we need to go in a new direction. Second, American workers need our support. They are suffering because of economic

policies they had nothing to do with. As I continue to work for real reforms to fix our financial system, I will not forget New Mexico's working families.

HONORING TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE PAUL MORENO

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my fellow El Pasoan, Texas State Representative Paul Moreno, an institution in El Paso and the State of Texas and the longest serving Hispanic elected official in the United States.

After over 4 decades of public service and a distinguished career defending and championing the rights of the poor and disenfranchised, he has left his mark on American politics.

Born in 1931, Paul Moreno grew up in the Segundo Barrio of South El Paso. After high school, he proudly served 6 years in the United States Marine Corps and saw combat in Korea, earning the Presidential Unit Citation, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the National Defense Service Medal and the Korean Service Medal.

After his military service, Paul went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Texas Western, now the University of Texas at El Paso, and he also attended the University of Texas at Austin School of Law.

Representative Moreno first won election to the Texas House in 1967. During his tenure, he has always been a passionate and outspoken advocate for the poor, the disabled, and the underdog. He fought on behalf of the next generation of Texans and vigorously supported improving education, economic opportunities for our youth and health care for our children. He has been a staunch advocate on behalf of teachers, and for over 40 years has been a champion of working families. In short, Paul Moreno has been a voice for the people, and many consider him to be the "Conscience of the Texas House."

Representative Moreno has worked with 8 governors and many speakers of the House, and currently presides as the dean of the Texas House. Even though his voice may no longer echo in the halls of the State Capitol in Austin when his term is over at the end of this year, it will continue to guide those who strive to live up to the example of public service that he has set for us all. He will be missed.

T4

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

T4
The next generation!

As great as any others who have come before!

An Army Man . . .

Who, with but his great heart here now so stands!

Part Titanium, Part Man . . . The New Prototype, of an Army Man!

Who's Tours DeForce . . .

All in his life's force, with his tours of duty while all out on death's course . . .

A Freedom Fighter, the kind our hearts and souls so here ignite here . . . with all of his great life's force!

Special Forces . . .

And 107th Cav, those great men of honor who freedom so enforce this!

With great acts of daring and might, with all of their most superhuman feats . . . are but freedom's voice!

Where do you go?

When your face and body, have been blown and shattered here so?

How do you rebuild with no back left still? For it's all found so deep down inside, in what a heart can will!

Piece by Piece, as this T Man has grown . . . Day by Day, Hour by Hour . . . as all have so found out what his soul can shower! As he stands alone!

To find the courage on battlefields of honor, in operation rooms he towers! All in courage's finest hour!

Eggleston, a doctor's son . . .

A sure fine one, as is this America's Son . . . Terminating evil this one!

A Virginian who so shines, for all of us so in time . . . as we watch his heart . . . his fire . . . burn like The Sun!

For all of those who go off to war . . .

Are but the greatest of all Americans so sure, who for us all . . . our very freedom do so insure!

For all that we have, all in this land of the free . . . is but bought and paid for, by all these fine heroes sure!

The people who hate war the most!

Are but all of those Magnificent Brave Heart's, who must face death . . . and lose their comrades close!

And leave their loved ones behind in tears, with sleepless nights here . . . all so that we can have the most!

In life, all is possible in what you feel . . .

All in what you so stand for, your ideals . . . deep down inside ones heart so real . . .

That let's you go off to war, to face heartache and death . . . and evil to endure and rebuild, and not yield!

Like T4 . . .

Bodies can grow and rebuild, with but hard work, courage and iron wills . . . with titanium and more . . .

But, without a heart . . . one can not so live and endure . . . only with, these special forces within like T4!

Dedicated to Charles Eggleston.

Grew up in Richmond, Va. E6 Staff Sergeant Special Forces and 107th Cav.

He was injured in Mousal, Iraq, in an IED blast. Legs, back and face reconstructed with titanium.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN ROBERT VALLEJO II

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Robert Vallejo II who was killed on September 18, 2008, while serving our country.

Captain Robert Vallejo II was a captain in Texas National Guard. He and six other Guard members lost their lives while on duty aboard